# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# WATER RESOURCES
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:101
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2011
INTERLINKING OF RIVERS
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**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:**

(a) the present status of interlinking of rivers in the country;

(b) the budgetary provisions made and the amount utilised so far on the proposed projects;

(c) the time limit fixed for completion of the projects; and

(d) the manner in which the interlinking river projects are likely to solve the water crisis, flood and drought conditions in the country?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 101 TO BE ANSWERED ON 3.3.2011 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING INTERLINKING OF RIVERS

(a) The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) under the Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) has identified 30 inter-state River links (16 under Peninsular Component & 14 under Himalayan Component) for preparation of Feasibility Reports (FRs). Out of these, FRs of 14 links under Peninsular Component and 2 links (Indian Portion) under Himalayan Component have been completed.

Five inter-state River links under Peninsular Component namely (i) Ken-Betwa, (ii) Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal, (iii) Damanganga-Pinjal, (iv) Par-Tapi-Narmada & (v) Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijayawada) were identified as priority links for building consensus among the concerned states for taking up their Detailed Project Reports (DPRs). DPR of one priority link namely, Ken − Betwa was completed and sent to the Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh for consultation. Further, NWDA has taken up the DPRs of two more priority links after concurrence of the concerned states, namely Par − Tapi − Narmada and Damanganga − Pinjal which are planned to be completed by December, 2011. Another priority link namely, Godavari (Polavaram)- Krishna(Vijawada) link is part of the Polavaram project of the Andhra Pradesh. Planning Commission has given investment clearance to the Polavaram Project and the Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up the above project including link component as per their proposals.

NWDA has received 36 intra-state river links proposals from 7 States viz. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Orissa, Bihar, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. Out of above, Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 12 intra-state river links have been completed by NWDA.

(b) NWDA has incurred an expenditure of Rs.312.12 crore from 1982-83 up to January, 2011 against a budgetary provision of 316.93 Crores upto FY 2011-12 for preparation of PFRs/FRs/DPRs of inter-state river link proposals, preparation of PFRs/DPRs of intra-state river links and other studies in this regard.

(c) The implementation of the inter-state river linking proposals depends on the consensus and co-operation of the concerned States and agreements with neighbouring countries (in case of link proposals under the Himalayan Component).Therefore, it is difficult to fix a time limit for completion of any project. As far as Intra-State River links are concerned the same have been started recently.

(d) The 30 Inter-State River link proposals firmed up by NWDA envisages additional irrigation benefits of 25 million hectare of irrigation from surface waters, 10 million hectare by increased use of ground waters and generation of 34000 MW of power apart from the benefits of flood moderation, navigation, water supply, fisheries, salinity, pollution control etc.